State/System/Region	Energy Requirement (Million Units)
Eastern Region	68,198
Arunachal Pradesh	286
Assam	4,297
Manipur	451
Meghalaya	1,368
Mizoram	235
Nagaland	343
Tripura	802
North-Eastern Region	7,782
ALL INDIA:	690,587

#Lakshadweep and Andaman and Nicobar Islands are stand-alone systems, power supply position of these, does not form part of regional requirement and availability.

Note: Both Peak Demand and energy availability represent the net consumption.

(including the transmission losses) in the various States. Net export has been accounted for in the consumption of importing States.

PLF of Power Generation Plants

1809. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) what is the present Plant Load Factor (PLF) of Centrally Controlled Power Generation Plants in the country;

(b) whether it is a fact that a large number of plants are not working under normal working capacity;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the details of remedial steps Government has taken so far, to improve/enhance capcity of such power generation plants?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SHINDE): (a) The overall Plant Load Factor (PLF) of Central Sector Thermal Power Stations (coal & lignite) and nuclear power plants in the country during the current financial year (April, 2007-February, 2008) was 86.4% and 46.6% respectively.

(b) and (c) The performance of power plants (generation, PLF etc.) is dependent on a number factors like installed capacity, age of the units, past performance, planned outages, availability of water/fuel (both quantity and quality), etc. While availability of water during monsoon and non-monsoon season as well as irrigation requirements influence performance of hydro-power stations, the quality and availability of fuel have a bearing on the performance of thermal power stations. Therefore, the actual performance of some power plants, mostly in the state sector, is at variance with their normal working capacity.

(d) The following steps have been/are being taken by the Government of India to bring improvement in the generation capacity of poorly performing stations:

(i) Coal supply to coal based power stations is being regularly monitored.

(ii) Continuous interaction of CEA engineers with Plant Authorities, BHEL and other concerned agencies for solving bottlenecks in O&M activities.

(iii) Renovation, modernization and life extension of old and inefficient generating units.

(iv) Continuous interaction of CEA along with the better performing utilities and the poor performing utilities to introduce better O&M practices so as to improve the plant load factor.

Participation of MNCs in hydro power projects

1810. SHRI AMAR SINGH: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is proposing to restrict certain MNCs from participating in hydro power projects; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SHINDE): (a) No, Sir. In fact, the Government of India is encouraging private participation in power projects. 100% FDI is already permitted in the power generation (except atomic energy) transmission & distribution projects.

(b) Does not arise.

Power generation from dams in Northern India

†1811. SHRI PYARELAL KHANDELWAL: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the water table of main electricity generating dams of Northern India like Bhakra, Pong, Thien, Rihand and Matatila, Gandhi Nagar, Bansagar, Indira Sagar and Bargi, etc. has gone down drastically;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the electricity production has been affected adversely due to fall in the water table;

(c) if so, the quantum of electricity generated in these dams and the shortfall in electricity production due to fall in the water table;

(d) whether Government has formulated any plan in this regard; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SHINDE): (a) Yes, Sir. The water levels in the current year in the Bhakra, Pong, Thein, Rihand, Gandhisagar, Bansager Indirasagar and Bargi are lower than the levels on the same day of last year except in Matatila. The details of water level in respect of these dams are as under:—

†*Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.*